AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12-15, 18-21, and 23-25 have been amended. Claims 1, 7, 13, 19 and 23 are independent. Claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-18, 20-22 and 24-25 depend from independent claims 1, 7, 13, 19 and 23, respectively.

The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

broadcasting at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

receiving a response from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said at least one access device being separate and distinct from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points; and

requesting from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within said coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points.

2.   (Currently Amended)   The method according to claim 1, wherein said requesting comprises sending at least one status request message only to a particular one of to at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

3.   (Currently Amended)   The method according to claim 2, comprising, receiving from said particular one at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, at least one status reply message indicating said status of said at least one access device.

4.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 3, wherein one or more of said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and/or said at least one status reply message comprises a messaging protocol message.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, wherein said broadcasting comprises broadcasting said at least one discovery message from one or more of a server, a switch and/or said at least one of said plurality of access points.

6.   (Currently Amended)   The method according to claim 5, wherein said broadcasting comprises broadcasting said at least one discovery message only to one or more of said plurality of access points located in a particular subnetwork with a particular IP address.

7.   (Currently Amended)   A non-transitory computer-readable medium, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one

code section executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps comprising:

broadcasting at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

receiving a response from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said at least one access device being separate and distinct from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points; and

requesting from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within said coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points.

8.   (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium according to claim 7, wherein said requesting code comprises code for sending at least one status request message only to a particular one of to at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

9.   (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium according to claim 8, comprising code for receiving from said particular one at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, at least one status reply message indicating said status of said at least one access device.

10.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium according to claim 9, wherein one or more of said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and/or said at least one status reply message comprises a messaging protocol message.

11.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium according to claim 7, wherein said broadcasting code comprises code for broadcasting said at least one discovery message from one or more of a server, a switch and/or said at least one of said plurality of access points.

12.   (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said broadcasting code comprises code for broadcasting said at least one discovery message only to one or more of said plurality of access points located in a particular subnetwork with a particular IP address.

13.   (Currently Amended)   A system for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one broadcaster that broadcasts at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

at least one receiver that receives a response from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said at least one access device being separate and distinct from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points; and

a requester that requests from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within said coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points.

14.   (Currently Amended)   The system according to claim 13, wherein said requester comprises a sender that sends at least one status request message only to a particular one of to at least one ofsaid plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

15.   (Currently Amended)   The system according to claim 14, wherein said at least one receiver receives from said <u>particular one</u> at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, at least one status reply message indicating said status of said at least one access device.

16.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 15, wherein one or more of said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and/or said at least one status reply message comprises a messaging protocol message.

17.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 13, wherein said at least one broadcaster broadcasts said at least one discovery message from one or more of a server, a switch and/or said at least one of said plurality of access points.

18.   (Currently Amended)   The system according to claim 17, wherein said broadcaster broadcasts said at least one discovery message only to one or more of said plurality of access points located in a particular subnetwork <u>with a particular IP address</u>.

19.   (Currently Amended)   A system for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

one or more circuits that broadcasts at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

said one or more circuits receive a response from said at least one of [[a]]<u>said</u> plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]<u>said</u> plurality of access

points, said at least one access device being separate and distinct from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points; and

said one or more circuits request from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within said coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points.

20.   (Currently Amended)   The system according to claim 19, wherein said requesting comprises sending at least one status request message only to a particular one of to at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

21.   (Currently Amended)   The system according to claim 20, wherein said one or more circuits receive from said particular one at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, said at least one status reply message indicating said status of said at least one access device.

22.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 21, wherein one or more of said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and/or said at least one status reply message comprises a messaging protocol message.

23.   (Currently Amended)   A system for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one processor that broadcasts at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

said at least one processor receives a response from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access

device located within a coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, said at least one access device being separate and distinct from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points; and

said at least one processor requests from said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within said coverage area of said at least one of [[a]]said plurality of access points.

24. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 23, wherein said requesting comprises sending at least one status request message only to a particular one of to at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

25. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 24, wherein said at least one processor receives from said particular one at least one of said plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, at least one status reply message indicating said status of said at least one access device.